



1742

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kouji Ueda et al.

Appln. No. 09/657,470

Group Art Unit: 1742

Confirmation No.: 1700

Examiner: Sikyin Ip

Filed: September 7, 2000

For: RETAINER

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**PETITION TO RESET THE PERIOD FOR REPLY
DUE TO LATE RECEIPT OF AN OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants' representatives have recently received an Office Action dated December 6, 2001, for the above-identified application. In view of the substantial portion of the set period for reply having elapsed prior to the date of receipt, Applicants hereby petition to have the previously set time period for reply to the Office Action restarted. Applicants submit the following in support of the petition.

Applicants are filing the present petition within two weeks of the actual date of receipt of the Office Action. A substantial portion of the set period for reply has elapsed prior to the date of receipt of the Office Action. The PTO mail date of the Office Action was December 6, 2001. However, the actual date of receipt of the Office Action was January 23, 2002. Enclosed herewith is a copy of the Office Action cover page with the Sughrue Mion, PLLC Docketing Department stamped date of receipt. As a routine matter, mail received by Sughrue Mion, PLLC is first processed and date stamped by the Docketing Department upon its arrival.

**PETITION TO RESET THE PERIOD FOR REPLY
DUE TO LATE RECEIPT OF AN OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Appln No. 09/657,470**

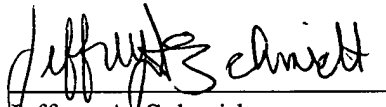
Atty. Docket: Q60746

Applicant believes that the Office Action may have been subjected to delay by the U.S. Postal Service as a result of recent extra precautions being taken by the U.S. Postal Service to screen mail passing through Washington D.C. Post Offices.

As provided for in MPEP §710.06, and in view of the above, Applicants respectfully petition to have the previously set time period for reply to the Office Action, dated December 6, 2001 restarted.

It is not believed that any fees are due for the present Petition. However, should it be determined that fees are required for the present petition, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey A. Schmidt
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Date: January 28, 2002